

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the Specification to correct typographical errors.

Applicants have also canceled claims 1-20 and added new claims 21-38 to define the present invention with more specificity. Support for the amendments is found in the Specification (particularly on Page 3, lines 29-31, and Page 6, lines 17-18) and in the original Claims.

No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 21-38 are pending. No additional claim fee is due.

Rejection under 35 USC 102 over Kasprzak

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by US 4,685,930 to Kasprzak (hereinafter "Kasprzak"). The Examiner asserts that Kasprzak discloses a method for cleaning textiles with a cleaning composition comprising contacting textiles with a cyclic siloxane and the cleaning composition is applied in a conventional laundry process.

Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants submit that the rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-20.

Applicants further submit that new Claims 21-38 are not anticipated by Kasprzak because Kasprzak discloses a method of applying a cleaning composition containing cyclic siloxane in the pre-treating step, and the soil-solvent combination is then removed in a subsequent step (Col. 3, lines 4-14). Kasprzak does not disclose a method of using a wash medium containing siloxane in the laundering step in an automatic laundry machine, or a method comprising a non-immersive step in an automatic laundry machine. Therefore, Kasprzak does not anticipate the presently claimed invention.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC 102 over Kilgour et al.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. 6,310,029 to Kilgour et al. (hereinafter "Kilgour"). The Examiner asserts that Kilgour discloses a method of cleaning an article comprising contacting an article with a cleaning composition comprising a siloxane.

Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants submit that the rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-20.

Applicants further submit that new Claims 21-38 are not anticipated by Kilgour because Kilgour does not disclose a home laundry process using a wash medium comprising siloxane in an automatic laundry machine or a method comprising a non-immersive cleaning step in an automatic washing machine. Therefore, Kilgour does not anticipate the instant claims.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC 102 over US 5,942,007 to Berndt et al.

Claims 1-24, 6-10 and 12-18 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. 5,942,007 to Berndt et al. (hereinafter "Berndt '007 patent"). The Examiner asserts that Berndt '007 patent discloses a dry cleaning method comprising contacting a garment in a vertical combination washer/dryer with a composition comprising a siloxane.

Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants submit that the rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-20. Applicants further submit that new Claims 21-38 are not anticipated by Berndt '007 patent because Berndt '007 patent does not disclose a home laundry process using a wash medium comprising siloxane in an automatic laundry machine or a method comprising a non-immersive cleaning step in an automatic washing machine. Therefore, Berndt '007 patent does not anticipate the instant claims.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC 102 over US 6,063,135 to Berndt et al.

Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-18 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. 6,063,135 to Berndt et al. (hereinafter "Berndt '135 patent"). The Examiner asserts that Berndt '135 patent discloses a dry cleaning method comprising contacting a garment in a vertical combination washer/dryer with a composition comprising a siloxane.

Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants submit that the rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-20. Applicants further submit that new Claims 21-38 are not anticipated by Berndt '135 patent because Berndt '135 patent does not disclose a home laundry process using a wash medium comprising siloxane in an automatic laundry machine or a method comprising a non-immersive cleaning step in an automatic washing machine. Therefore, Berndt '135 patent does not anticipate the instant claims.

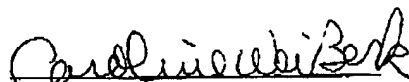
Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest effort to place the present claims in condition for allowance. WHEREFORE, entry of the amendments provided herewith, reconsideration of the claims as amended in light of the Remarks provided, withdrawal of the claims rejections, and allowance of Claims 21-38 are respectfully requested.

In the event that issues remain prior to allowance of the noted claims, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney to discuss any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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August 12, 2003
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- 1) Response (8 pages)
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